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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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*** Comment. Although the UOEF has been strongly anti-Communist, there were indications in mid-1949 that a Communist group may have been formed within the organization.

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**** . Members of the UOEF are testifying against the union in a case currently before the Philippine Court of Industrial Relations.

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**** Comment. In , it was reported that dissident elements may have infiltrated the Union Maritima which won the bid to unload military aid supplies from the US in Manila. The contract requires that a total of 1,200 laborers is necessary for the job, and since the Union Maritima has a total strength of approximately 300, it was obliged to secure laborers from available sources. However, it was observed that the report may have been planted by persons interested in discrediting the Union Maritima.

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Comment. The belief that the present Philippine labor unions are losing their control, resulting in a situation that may be ideal for Communist penetration, is unfounded. The time for the Communists to take over labor in the Philippines is less auspicious now than it was formerly. While the Communists could move in, now is an appropriate time for honest and progressive labor leaders to organize unions that actually benefit laborers.

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